

Message Text

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14

ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 EB-07 DHA-02 INT-05 SS-15 IGA-02 L-03

NSC-05 IO-10 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /120 W

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O R 301120Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO AMCONSUL BOMBAY IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3069

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN, IN, US

SUBJECT: INDIAN MINE DISASTER COVERAGE

REF: NEW DELHI 17301

1. AS IT NOW STANDS, THE FIRST TWO PUMPS FROM US ARE TO ARRIVE IN BOMBAY 0410 THURSDAY MORNING FROM NEW YORK VIA AIR INDIA WHERE THEY WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO INDIAN AIR FORCE PLANE FOR ONWARD SHIPMENT TO PANAGARH. IN LIEU OF EXPERTS AS ORIGINALLY REQUESTED, GOI HAS NOW REQUESTED THE MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS BE SUPPLIED WITH PUMPS WHICH THEY FEEL IS ADEQUATE TO ASSEMBLE AND OPERATE THE PUMPS. WE ARE STRONGLY URGING THAT AT LEAST PUMP EXPERT SHOULD COME FROM US.

2. BOMBAY SHOULD PLAN LOW KEY PHOTO COVERAGE OF THE ARRIVAL OF THE US EQUIPMENT, AND ITS TRANSFER TO INDIAN AIR FORCE, FOR RECORD PURPOSES ONLY.

3. WE RECOMMEND CALCUTTA SEND LIEBOWTIZ ALONG WITH USIS INDIAN CONTRACT PHOTOGRAPHER TO COVER THE ARRIVAL AT PANAGARH, THE ONWARD JOURNEY TO THE MINE SITE AND SUBSEQUENT PUMPING AND RESCUE OPERATIONS BEING CONDUCTED AT THE CHASNALA COLLIERY. LIEBOWITZ

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SHOULD PLAN TO STAY IN TOUCH WITH SHAFER BY TELEPHONE.HIS FUNCTION

WOULD BE ONLY TO OBSERVE AND REPORT.

4. IN ACCORDANCE WITH DISASTER ASSISTANCE HANDBOOK, PHOTOS OF MINE SITE AND RESCUE OPERATIONS ARE NEEDED BY WASHINGTON. HOWEVER, THERE SHOULD BE NO RELEASE OF PHOTOS OR OTHER INFORMATIONAL MATERIAL PRIOR TO CONSULTING EMBASSY.

5. WHILE GOI IS APPARENTLY SCREENING OFFERS FROM SEVERAL COUNTRIES, THE ASSISTANCE ACCEPTED TO DATE HAS BEEN ONLY FROM THE U.S. PLEASE CONFIRM ANY DONOR AID OBSERVED AT MINE SITE.

6. WE ARE SEEKING GOI APPROVAL FOR PHOTOGRAPHS IN BOMBAY AND LIEBOWITZ OPERATION AT MINE SITE AND WILL INFORM CONGENS URGENTLY WHEN OBTAINED.

7. PLEASE TRANSMIT NIACT IMMEDIATE NAMES OF PHOTOGRAPHERS TO BE USED IN BOMBAY AND CALCUTTA.
SAXBE

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